



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

New Bedford Whaling
National Historical Park

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New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park News Release

For Immediate Release
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Park Offers Free Film Festival and Sneak Peek of Ken Burns Documentary

New Bedford, MA—How would you like to experience national parks across the United States without even leaving New Bedford? You will be able to do just that in September.

On September 27, PBS will premiere *The National Parks: America's Best Idea*, a 12-hour, 6-part documentary on national parks directed by Ken Burns and written by Dayton Duncan. The documentary will run for six consecutive nights.

In anticipation of this event, New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park will host a series of films representing National Park Service (NPS) sites from all over the country that share common themes and stories with the park. From Monday, September 21, through Friday, September 25, beginning at 6:30 PM each evening, the park will show a movie from a different NPS unit each night, followed by a sneak preview of *The National Parks: America's Best Idea*.

On Monday, Sept. 21, the park will feature *Beneath the Reflections*, an exploration of the underwater world of Alaska's Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. Tuesday, September 22 will showcase the Charlestown Navy Yard, one of our nation's oldest navy yards, where over 50,000 men and women worked during World War II, building and repairing ships for the U.S. Navy. Wednesday's film, *For the People*, gives us a glimpse of national park sites in our nation's capital. On Thursday, September 24, the park will show *Woodstock's Civil War: A Speakchorus*, a movie from Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park highlighting the first-ever NPS program interpreting the Civil War Home Front. Friday, September 25, the last evening of the series, will culminate in a screening of *Untold Stories from America's National Parks*—featuring five “mini-docs” profiling contemporary people from diverse backgrounds involved in parks. The film series is free and open to the public. For more information, call the park at 508-996-4095, x 6105, or visit the website at www.nps.gov/nebe.

New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park was established by Congress in 1996 to help preserve and interpret America's nineteenth century whaling industry. The park, which encompasses a 13-block National Historic Landmark District, is the only National Park Service area addressing the history of the American whaling industry and its influence on the economic, social, and environmental history of the United States.

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